**Chalk Horses**

If you go walking in the South of England in Wiltshire, be careful you might end up walking on a horse; one of England’s famous Chalk Horses.



An **enormous** picture of a horse (about 112 metres long) has been **carved** into the hillside. The plants, grass and **soil** has been cut away from the top of the ground to **reveal** the white **chalk-based** stone **underneath**. This huge picture of the horse can be seen from about 50 metres away.

The people who made the Chalk Horses would have had basic **tools** and would have had to work very hard to **cut away** all of the soil. Moreover, life would have been very hard at the time and it must have been hard to find food. So, the Chalk Horse must have been very important for people to create.



**Archaeologists** say that some of England’s ancient Chalk horses were created thousands years ago. **Experts** believe that the White Horse found in Uffington is about 3000 years old. It is clear how they were made but no one really knows why they were made.

Some **historians** have said that there are other **ancient** **monuments** and **castles** are near the Chalk Horses and this might be connected. Other experts think that the pictures of horses were **symbols** of **tribes** and **frightened** enemies from a distance. Other people think that the huge pictures were carved into the ground because horses were very important because horses were used for work, transport and battle. Therefore, this was a way to show honour and respect to the horse.